



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

09/589,252 06/07/00 GONG

Y TI-25489.1

EXAMINER

WM01/0907

ROBERT L TROIKE
P O BOX 655474 MS 3999
DALLAS TX 75265-5474

AZAD, A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2641

DATE MAILED:

09/07/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

MAILED

SEP 07 2001

Technology Center 2600

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Paper No. 11

Application Number: 09/589,252
Filing Date: June 07, 2000
Appellant(s): GONG, YIFAN

Robert L. Troike
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to appellant's brief on appeal filed July 05, 2001.

(1) *Real Party in Interest*

A statement identifying the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) *Related Appeals and Interferences*

A statement identifying the related appeals and interferences which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the decision in the pending appeal is contained in the brief.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of the claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Invention

The summary of invention contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Issues

The appellant's statement of the issues in the brief is correct.

(7) Grouping of Claims

Claim 9 is the only claim under consideration.

(8) Claims Appealed

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(9) Prior Art of Record

The following is a listing of the prior art of record relied upon the rejection of claim under appeal.

5,812,972

Juang et al.

09-1998

(10) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Juang et al. (US 5,812,972).

As per claim 9, Juang et al. teach, "a speech recognizer" comprising:

"a speech signal source representation" (col. 5, lines 18-27, the feature analyzer converts the input digital speech signals to a series of feature vectors, here feature vectors $O'(i)$ are the speech signal source representation);

"a set of transformation" (col. 5, line 66 to col. 6, line 4, the recognizer modifies each feature vector by subtracting an existing equalization vector, this is a transformation resulting in $O''(i)$);

"said signal source representation ($O'(i)$) and said set of transformations ($O''(i)$) being jointly determined (i.e., after each word) to reduce the recognition error rate by performing the step of determining a new set of signal source representation ($O'(i)$) and determining new transformations ($O''(i)$) jointly with the new signal source representation" (Juang et al. teach that after each word, $O'(i)$ and $O''(i)$ are changed giving rise to a new signal source representation and a new set of transformations).

(11) Response to Argument

The Applicant argues on Page 3: "claim 9 calls for transforming speech models."

It is the Examiner's position that transforming speech models is not claimed. The claim only calls for a speech signal source representation, which reads on $O'(i)$ of Juang et al..

The Applicant further asserts on Page 3:

“the reference transforms the input speech and not the speech models or speech signal source representation to reduce the recognition error rate.”

The Examiner maintains that the claim does not call for transforming speech models. The claim merely states “a speech signal source representation,” which reads on the input speech representation of Juang et al.. The whole purpose of the equalization vector is to reduce the error rate by removing channel, microphone, and ambient noise, as well as speaker accent. Therefore, all the elements in the claim are met by Juang et al..

Conclusion

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Art Unit: 2641

Respectfully submitted,

ABUL K. AZAD
September 5, 2001

Appeals Conference (08/13/2001) Conferees:

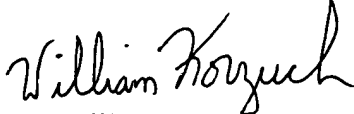
WK

WILLIAM R. KORZUCH (SPE 2641)

TS

TALIVALDIS I. SMITS (P.E. 2641)

ROBERT L TROIKE
P O BOX 655474 MS 3999
DALLAS, TX 75265-5474


WILLIAM KORZUCH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800